cent during 1983—94 to 1.87 per cent during 1994—2000. However, public sector, which provides nearly 70 per cent of organized employment, faced a sharp fall in the growth in employment from 1.52 per cent per annum during 1983—94 to (–)0.03 per cent during 1994—2000.

Report of Special Group on employment opportunities

285. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Special Group constituted in September 2001 has prepared a report "A package for creation of 10 million employment opportunities per annum over the Tenth Plan 2002—2007";

(b) whether the said report alerts and says that employment generating capacity of the economy and especially the organized sector *vis-a-vis* the GDP growth is indicating decline from 1983 to 2000; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The report of the Special Group has noted the decline in overall employment elasticity, which measures relationship between employment and GDP growth, from 0.52 during 1983—1994 to 0.16 during 1994—2000. The employment elasticity in the organized sector has been very low at 0.066 during 1994—2000.

Number of Unemployed/Underemployed in States

286. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated number of unemployed/underemployed persons, state-wise :

(b) the steps taken by Government to promote labour intensive industries and schemes; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to generate employment opportunities in backward areas of Chhatisgarh and Madhya Pradesh ?